THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, 9th August, 1939

The House met in the Legislative Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. DR. U. RAMA RAO) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

* 13 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR N. R. SAMIAPPA MUDALIYAR:—"This question has been already answered, Sir; therefore, I do not put it now."

Sale of coffee husk and adulteration of coffee.

* 14 *Q.*—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to refer to the answer given to my question No. 214 on 25th March 1939, and to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have enquired and ascertained (i) if there is extensive sale in this Province of husk from coffee produced in this Province and Coorg, and (ii) if it is used for adulterating coffee;

(*b*) if so, what the result of the enquiry is; and

(*c*) whether Government have in view any legislation to stop the sale of coffee husk and adulteration of genuine coffee therewith?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"(*a*) & (*b*) No enquiry has been made on the points referred to.

"(*c*) No proposal for legislation to stop the sale of coffee husk is under consideration. As the adulteration of coffee with coffee husk is prohibited by rules framed under the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, no legislation appears necessary."

MR. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I know whether the Government enquired into the reason why the evil is spreading? If there is the evil, I am afraid there will be much mischief done; I want to know whether Government have made the necessary enquiries, and if not, why not."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The question is not whether the Government have made enquiries or not; the question is whether the Government have made any legislative provision to deal with the evil. The Government have

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already made provision according to the Prevention of Adulteration Act. I really do not understand what the hon. Member wants, Sir."

Amendment of Indian Lepers Act and relief to lepers.

* 15 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer given to my question No. 287 on 15th May 1939, will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Indian Lepers Act is proposed to be amended to give relief to lepers and control the nuisance and danger arising from their loitering in public places and contact with other people; and

(*b*) when legislation may be expected in this direction?

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) In view of the answer to clause (*a*) this does not arise."

Development of the coir industry.

* 16 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer given to my question No. 237 on 11th May 1939, will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state what steps have been taken by the Government for demonstration of improved methods of coir making in South Kanara and in other districts with large coconut plantations?

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI:—" The Government recently considered a proposal for the constitution of a coir demonstration party for employment in North Malabar or South Kanara. It had to be deferred for want of funds."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—" May I enquire, Sir, whether the Government will find funds at an early date to extend it to Malabar and South Kanara which have large coconut plantations? "

The Hon. Sri V. V. GIRI:—" I hope so."

Extension of the system of manual training and kindergarten in schools.

* 17 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer to the supplementary question under question No. 253 answered on 12th May 1939, will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the present system of manual training and kindergarten is to be extended and developed and adopted compulsorily in all classes as supplementary to the literary courses, if not, as primary to them; and

(*b*) what provision is made or is to be made for funds to meet the expenditure for the purpose?